Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01006 251622Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 HA-05
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /079 W
----------130758 251625Z /46
O R 251506Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7987
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1006

DAR FOR AMB YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV RH US UK
SUBJ: RHODESIA: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S MEETINGS WITH UANC AND ZANU/SITHOLE

1. LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UANC AND ZANU/SITHOLE CONTACTED THE EMBASSY TO REQUEST MEETINGS WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG DURING HIS VISIT TO LUSAKA. THE MEETINGS OF LESS THAN AN HOUR EACH, TOOK PLACE ON FRIDAY, MARCH 24 AT THE RESIDENCE.

2. UANC WAS REPRESENTED BY SIMPSON MTAMBANENGWE AND PARIREWA WITH THE FORMER DOING ALMOST ALL THE TALKING. MTAMBANENGWE PRESENTED HIS CASE IN A FORCEFUL AND HIGHLY ARTICULATE WAY, SHOWING DEEP CONVICTION IN EVERYTHING HE SAID. THE TWO SAID CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 LUSAKA 01006 251622Z

THAT THEY WERE BOTH FORMER ZANU MEMBERS WHO HAD JOINED THE ANC IN LATE '74 WHEN IT WAS FORMED UNDER MUZOREWA, AND REMAINED WITH HIM. THEY EXPECTED TO BE GOING BACK TO SALISBURY IN A FEW MONTHS. MTAMBANENGWE MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTSC -- THE POPULATION OF RHODESIA WAS TIRED OF THE STRUGGLE AND WOULD ACCEPT THE SETTLEMENT WHICH HAD BEEN ARRIVED AT IN FEBRUARY, JUST AS THEY WOULD HAVE ACCEPTED A SETTLEMENT HAD

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

NKOMO ACHIEVED ONE IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH SMITH WHICH ABORTED IN 1976.
-- HE HIMSELF HAD HAD CONTACT WITH GUERRILLA LEADERS INSIDE THE COUNTRY AND HAD PERSONALLY BEEN ASSURED BY THEM THAT THEY WOULD LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS WHEN THE AGREEMENT WENT INTO EFFECT.
-- HE RECOGNIZED THAT THE AGREEMENT FELL SHORT OF WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN DESIRABLE BUT HE BELIEVED IT WOULD WORK AND SMITH WOULD CARRY OUT HIS SIDE OF IT.
-- ANY ASSUMPTION OF AUTHORITY BY THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WOULD LEAD INEVITABLY TO A CIVIL WAR BETWEEN ITS TWO ELEMENTS.

3. IN RESPONSE TO OUR QUESTION, MTAMBANENGWE SAID THAT FURTHER PURSUIT OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSAL WOULD NOT BE CONVENIENT OR APPROPRIATE AT THIS STAGE, THOUGH HE APPARENTLY TOOK OUR POINT THAT IT WOULD BE WISE TO KEEP IT IN RE3ERVE IN THE EVENT SOMETHING HAPPENED TO THE PROGRESS OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT.

4. AMBASSADOR YOUNG REVIEWED OUR PRESENT POSITION AND REPEATED OUR CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE AAP. HE NOTED OUR RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT.

5. ZANU/SITHOLE WAS REPRESENTED BY DAVID ZAMUCHIYA (LEGAL ADVISOR), LUSAKA REP PASIPANODYA AND HIS DEPUTY. ALTHOUGH PASI-PANODYA STARTED THE CONVERSATION OFF, MOST OF IT WAS CARRIED ON BY ZAMUCHIYA. AMBASSADOR YOUNG EMPHASIZED THAT THE U.S. CONTINUED TO BELIEVE THAT THERE COULD BE NO LASTING SOLUTION
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IN ZIMBABWE WITHOUT ALL PARTIES BEING INVOLVED. HE SAID THAT A MAJOR PROBLEM WITH THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT WAS THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO INDICATION THAT SMITH IS REALLY READY TO GIVE POWER TO THE BLACK MAJORITY. IN ANY CASE, WE HAVE KEPT IN TOUCH WITH ALL SIDES AND FOR NOW WILL HAVE TO SEE HOW THE SITUATION DEVELOPS.

6. ZAMUCHIYA SAID THAT THE INTERNAL NATIONALISTS HAD BEEN CRITICIZED FOR EXCLUDING THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, ALTHOUGH THEY HAD MADE A GENUINE ATTEMPT TO GET THE TWO SIDES TOGETHER. THE U.S. AND UK, IN FACT, HAD ACQUIESCED IN THE EXCLUSION OF MUZOREWA DURING THE SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE. AMBASSADOR YOUNG EXPLAINED THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH HAD LED MUZOREWA NOT TO PRESS TO SPEAK, AND ZAMUCHIYA THANKED HIM FOR THE CLARIFICATION. THE AMBASSADOR CLOSED THE MEETING STRESSING THAT WE WERE OPEN TO CONTINUING CONTACTS WITH SITHOLE'S GROUP. LOW

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Message Attributes

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